India does not have any unfair trade practices. It has been consistently the policy of the government that there should not be unilateral judgement or action on trade matters and that this should be resolved multilaterally.

Import Duty Reduction in GATT Agreement

5316. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as per GATT agreement due to import duty reduction about half of the industrial products will now enter developed countries duty free, and overall average tariff will amount to 3 to 9 per cent of the price of the end product ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to the above import duty cuts for import in industrial countries, developing countries would be able to export more fruits, vegetables, flowers, dairy produces, grains and tobacco; and

(c) if so, the prospects for Indian exports, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) According to a study done by the GATT Secretariat, after implementation of Uruguay Round results, the proportion of developed-economy merchandise imports from all sources that enters duty-free would be more than double, i.e. from 20% to 43%. This study suggests that the trade weighted average tariff on industrial products in developed countries will come down from 6.4% to 4%.

The Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture envisages (i) the "tariffication" of all non-tariff border measures, a target reduction of 36 per cent in the resulting tariffs and existing customs duties, and a binding of all agricultural duties at the new levels; (ii) a 20 per cent reduction in domestic support measures (expressed in the form of an aggregate measurement of support); and (iii) reductions of 36 per cent in budgetary outlays on export subsidies and reduction by 21 per cent in the quantity of subsidized exports, Adoption of these measures will enhance market access opportunities for agricultural commodities in all countries, both developed and developing.

Revival of sick Tea Gardens by Tea Plantation Workers Co-operatives

5317. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :
SHRI KAJUBHAI A. PARMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Tea plantation workers' cooperatives, in Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya and other States in North-East have been successful in not only reviving the sick tea gardens but in increasing their productivity manifold, a feat which the Tea Corporation of India had failed to achieve;

(b) if so, the details of such tea gardens; and

(c) what steps have been and are being taken to promote such cooperative efforts to other sick tea gardens including those under the Tea Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Tea Plantation Workers' Co-operatives in Assam and Tripura have been successful in reviving a few sick tea gardens.

(b) Details of tea gardens being successfully run by the Workers' Co-operatives are as follows :—

(1) Woka Tea Estate in Furkating, Distt. Golaghat, Assam.

(2) Durgabari Tea Estate, Bimangarh, in West Tripura District.

(c) Tea Board renders financial and technical assistance to all such Co-operative ventures under its various developmental schemes. There is however no proposal to hand over management of the gardens of Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd. to any such cooperative.

Singapore Prime Minister's visit to India

5318. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the recent visit of the Prime Minister of Singapore to New Delhi trade talks were held and agreements reached for augmenting bilateral trade ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) No separate bilateral trade talks were held during the recent visit of the Prime Minister of Singapore to New Delhi. However, a wide range of subjects was discussed which included the stepping up of collaborative ventures in diverse areas such as tourism, civil aviation, telecommunications, real estate and highways, financial services, ports and shipping, warehousing and information exchange.

The following agreements were signed at the official level :

1. Agreement for Avoidance of Double Taxation ;
2. Agreement on Maritime Transport between the Governments of India & Singapore.
3. Agreement on Tourism Cooperation between the Governments of India and Singapore.

Also, an agreement entitled "Strategic Framework Agreement for Business Co-operation" was signed between two private sector business organisations of the respective countries.

A Memorandum of Understanding on exchange of business information was signed between the India Trade Promotion Organisation and the Singapore Trade Development Board.

लघु उद्योगों द्वारा किया जाने वाला निर्यात

5319. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा :

क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान लघु उद्योगों द्वारा किए गए सीधे निर्यात व्यापार के अंश में निरन्तर वृद्धि हुई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1991-92, 1992-93 और 1993-94 के दौरान लघु